

# McHenry County Veterans Assistance Commission

## Minutes of the General Meeting

### 21 August 2019

**Chairman, Joseph Kersten** called the meeting of the Veterans Assistance Commission to order at 1912 Hours in Conference Room 104A, at the McHenry County Administration Building, 667 Ware Road, Woodstock, Illinois 60098.

Secretary, Michael Wisniewski **called the roll.** A quorum of officers and a quorum of 12 delegates and alternates representing 12 posts or organizations were present.

**Officer's present:** (\*Appointed)

<b>Chairman</b>	Joseph Kersten	<b>Sr. Vice Chairman</b>	Excused
<b>Jr. Vice Chairman</b>	Excused		
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	Harry Van Beetz	<b>Sergeant At Arms</b>	Jim Koch
<b>McHenry County Board Rep.</b>	Tom Wilbeck	<b>Parliamentarian*</b>	Harry Van Beetz
<b>Chaplain*</b>	Eugene Boxlietner	<b>IACVAC Delegate*</b>	Excused
<b>IACVAC Alternate*</b>	Lee Totman	<b>Secretary*</b>	Michael Wisniewski

#### Posts Represented:

<b>American Legion</b>	<b>#119 Fox River Grove</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>#171 Crystal Lake</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#192 Marengo</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>#253 Richmond</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#265 Harvard</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>#276 Cary</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#412 Woodstock</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>#491 McHenry</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#606 Hebron</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>#673 Huntley</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#1231 Lake In the Hills</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Cooties Put Tent #79</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>AMVETS</b>	<b>#245 Cary-Grove</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>#269 Woodstock</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Veterans Of Foreign Wars</b>	<b>#4600 McHenry</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>#5040 Woodstock</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>#12014 Crystal Lake</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>#11496 Johnsburg</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Sad Sacks 0962</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Student Veterans Association</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Marine Corps League</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>Polish Legion</b> Del <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alt <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<b>VietNow</b> Del <input type="checkbox"/> Alt <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Guests</b>	1. Wally Gulling, Huntley American Legion Post # 673/ Woodstock VFW Post # 5040. 2. VAC VSO., Victor Samoza..	

#### Officers Remarks:

There were no officer's remarks.

## **Routine Reports:**

**The July Minutes:** Copies of the July minutes were made available to all delegates and alternates. The motion to accept the July minutes as presented was made by Harry Van Beetz (VFW Crystal Lake Post #12014) and seconded by Greg Walington (VFW Woodstock Post #5040). The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

**VAC July Financial Report:** Copies of the July 2019 Year to Date Financial Report and July Financial Report were made available to all delegates and alternates.

The VAC Office addressed 17 requests for financial assistance to 11 unique clients for a total of \$5,302.49 in Veterans Assistance during July. The office submitted 27 new Claims to the US Department of Veterans Affairs during July. Year to Date the VAC has successfully prosecuted 104 outstanding claims for a total benefit to our local veterans of \$1,448,928. This equates to \$5.16 coming back to our veterans for each VAC budget dollar spent. The VAC used 46.91% of the allotted funds in the VAC budget up through July. This is less than the 66.67% allotted in the VAC budget up through July. The allotted budget is \$598,909.00 and the 2018 tax levy was \$400,000.00. The VAC may need to draw up to \$21,423.46 from the reserve fund as the projected budget usage may exceed the \$400,000.00 tax levy by that amount. Michael Wisniewski (MOC PT #79) made the motion to accept the July VAC financial reports as read. Eugene Boxlietner (AL Marengo Post #192) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.

## **Public Participation:**

The following guests declined to speak. They were Mr. Wally Gullang. Who is a veteran from the Woodstock VFW Post #5400 and the Huntley AL Post #673 and Mr. Victor Samoza, who is a VAC Veteran Service Officer.. .

## **Correspondence:**

- 1) A guideline notice for the newly established Caregiver Respite Veterans Assistance program was promulgated. This program will provide limited financial assistance for caregivers of homebound disabled veterans to use a vendor to provide home care assistance for the disabled veteran.

## **Committee Reports:**

*Executive Board Meeting:* No report.

*By-Laws:* No Report.

*Corporate Report:* The VAC Inc. held their regular monthly meeting prior to the regular VAC General Meeting.

*Public Relations Committee:* No report.

*Report of IACVAC Delegates:* No report.

*Superintendents Report:*

- 1) The VAC Superintendent discussed the newly established Caregiver Respite Veterans Assistance program and how it can benefit the veteran community.

## **Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to Old Business.**

- 1) The VAC Office is resolving its transportation fleet issues. The VAC office was able to lease two 2019 Pace buses at a favorable rate and the buses are already in use. The McHenry County Government has released the insurance check that was to be paid to the VAC Office as a result of a collision. The insurance money was used to order a replacement vehicle from an auto dealer. The new vehicle will be delivered this month. (August)
- 2) The McHenry IT crew are now revising some of the VAC Office forms to be compatible with the county software program suite. This will allow easier access to VAC data to various users.

- 3) The Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs has assigned a new service officer at the Woodstock Armory IDVA facility.
- 4) The McHenry County Government is reviewing the 2020 VAC Budget proposal. The proposed budget is fairly lean and is unable to be pared down further. Per the 2012 agreement, the VAC had reduced the excess reserve from a high of 26 months to a predicted 5.3 months by the end of 2019.

**Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor to New Business:**

- 1) Copies of the Rules and Eligibility Guidelines for the Caregiver Respite Veterans Assistance Section 1250 benefit was provided to the Commission for review by the VAC Superintendent.
- 2) Don Smolenski (AL Huntley Post #673) made the motion to allow the VAC Superintendent to pursue any grants pursuant to support the Caregiver Respite Veterans Assistance program. Don Stage (AMVETS Woodstock Post #269) seconded the motion. The motion was passed by unanimous vote.
- 3) The September VAC Meeting schedule was changed to September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019, in order to avoid conflicts with the Veterans Administration Town Hall Forum at McHenry County College on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Chairman Joe Kersten opened the floor for the good of the association.**

1. The Veterans Administration will host a Town Hall Open Forum at McHenry County College on September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Please encourage your post to encourage their members to attend the forum to get up to date with the VA programs.
2. Mrs. Lauren Underwood will host a Town Hall Forum at Sun City.
3. The military commissary system will now allow disabled veterans to shop at their facilities, beginning on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.
4. The posts are encouraged to spread the word that the blue water naval veterans who had served offshore adjacent to the country of VietNam during the VietNam War can now pursue VA Disability claims related to illnesses under the Agent Orange presumptive illness guidelines.

**The Benediction:** Chaplain, Eugene Boxlietner gave the Benediction..

The Colors were saluted.

Chairman, Joseph Kersten adjourned the meeting at 1943 Hours.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Michael F Wisniewski*

Michael F. Wisniewski

(Electronically Signed)

# Superintendents Financial Report For July 2019

## Financial Report Highlights for the Month of July 2019

### Veterans Assistance Expenditures

Worksheet

	Month		Year To Date	
	Financial Granted	Requests	Financial Granted	Requests
Emergency Shelter	\$ 2,404.50	2	\$ 4,889.20	4
Indp Living	\$ 2,136.84	4	\$ 21,401.57	49
Utilities	\$ -	0	\$ 1,990.26	54
Gasoline	\$ 661.15	7	\$ 4,474.04	54
Transportation	\$ -	0	\$ -	0
Food	\$ -	0	\$ 890.62	85
Total	\$ 100.00	4	\$ 550.00	22
Total	\$ 5,302.49	17	\$ 34,195.69	268
Total Requests Denied		1		5
Total Requests		18		273
Unique Clients		11		88

### Utilities Granted

	Month	Requests	Year to Date	Requests
Electric	\$ 282.10	2	\$ 874.34	12
Gas Heat	\$ 64.99	1	\$ 1,408.07	15
Phone	\$ 40.00	1	\$ 319.84	8
Trash	\$ 105.33	1	\$ 447.19	7
Water / Sewer	\$ 44.26	1	\$ 1,424.60	12
Total Utility	\$ 536.68	6	\$ 4,474.04	54

### Total Expenditures

Month	Year to Date
\$ 35,202.17	\$ 280,948.97

Projected Annual	\$ 421,423.46
Less: Funded by Levy	\$ 400,000.00
Projected Reserve Add (Use)	\$ (21,423.46)

### VA Disability and Pension Claims

	Month	Year to Date
New VA Claims	27	274
VA Paperwork Processed	426	2523
VA Claims Awarded 2019		104
New Claims \$\$ Awarded 2019		\$ 1,448,928
VA Award Ratio to VAC Total Expense (per \$1)		\$ 5.16
4 Year Cumulative Awards 2019 Value		\$ 9,528,316

VetraSpec

Total Assistance Granted By Applicants Township		
Township	Monthly Total	YTD Total
Alden	\$ -	\$ -
Algonquin	\$ 2,239.25	\$ 13,080.90
Burton	\$ -	\$ -
Chemung	\$ 182.34	\$ 2,665.19
Coral	\$ -	\$ -
Dorr	\$ -	\$ 924.00
Dunham	\$ -	\$ -
Grafton	\$ 306.50	\$ 4,102.50
Greenwood	\$ -	\$ -
Hartland	\$ -	\$ -
Hebron	\$ 440.43	\$ 4,187.31
Marengo	\$ -	\$ -
McHenry	\$ -	\$ 162.00
Nunda	\$ 2,009.50	\$ 4,415.52
Richmond	\$ -	\$ 3,265.20
Riley	\$ -	\$ -
Seneca	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	\$ 5,178.02	\$ 32,802.62
Total Townships	5	8

### VAC Lovell FHCC Transportation Service

VA Hospital Applications Year to Date

52

	Month	Annual
Miles	2479	17750
Passengers	210	1664
Driver Cost	\$ 3,864.39	\$ 30,602.59
Dispatch-Adm	\$ 2,266.48	\$ 18,131.86
Vehicle Cost	\$ 1,407.38	\$ 6,064.18
Total	\$ 7,538.25	\$ 54,798.63
Cost per Rider	\$ 35.90	\$ 32.93
Goal Cost per Rider is <	\$ 35.00	
Bus Fund	\$ 7,819.35	

# Superintendents Financial Report For July 2019

## Year to Date

Personnel					66.67%		
Line No.	Line Item	Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	Projected
301010	Salaries	\$ 215,130.00	\$ 136,359.02	\$ 78,770.98	63.4%	36.6%	\$ 204,538.53
302010	Part Time	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
302510	Holiday Pay	\$ 11,323.00	\$ 2,934.43	\$ 8,388.57	25.9%	74.1%	\$ 4,401.65
303010	Per Diem	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 23,986.74	\$ 26,013.26	48.0%	52.0%	\$ 35,980.11
304010	Over Time Salaries	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ 750.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
305010	Merit Pool	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
310010	Uniform All.	\$ 350.00	\$ -	\$ 350.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
310510	Social Security	\$ 17,598.00	\$ 9,835.83	\$ 7,762.17	55.9%	44.1%	\$ 14,753.75
310610	Medicare	\$ 4,116.00	\$ 2,265.14	\$ 1,850.86	55.0%	45.0%	\$ 3,397.71
311010	IMRF	\$ 17,998.00	\$ 11,212.31	\$ 6,785.69	62.3%	37.7%	\$ 16,818.47
314610	Health Insurance	\$ 37,584.00	\$ 29,037.67	\$ 8,546.33	77.3%	22.7%	\$ 43,556.51
<b>Personnel</b>		<b>\$ 354,849.00</b>	<b>\$ 215,631.14</b>	<b>\$ 139,217.86</b>	<b>60.77%</b>	<b>39.23%</b>	<b>\$ 323,446.71</b>
Contractual & Assistance		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
400100	Contract Service	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 1,299.00	\$ 2,451.00	34.6%	65.4%	\$ 1,948.50
400500	Dues/Memberships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 670.00	\$ 330.00	67.0%	33.0%	\$ 1,005.00
400600	Training	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,695.00	\$ 305.00	84.8%	15.3%	\$ 2,542.50
400800	Subscriptions	\$ 250.00	\$ 174.20	\$ 75.80	69.7%	30.3%	\$ 261.30
402300	Professional Services	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
403034	Specific Insurance	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 4,305.00	\$ 6,695.00	39.1%	60.9%	\$ 6,457.50
403050	Directors Insurance	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 5,230.00	\$ 270.00	95.1%	4.9%	\$ 7,845.00
404915	PreEmp Physical	\$ 700.00	\$ -	\$ 700.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
405500	Contract Printing	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 294.83	\$ 2,205.17	11.8%	88.2%	\$ 442.25
406000	Legal Note/Adv.	\$ 3,000.00	\$ -	\$ 3,000.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
409600	Telecommunications	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 411.22	\$ 838.78	32.9%	67.1%	\$ 616.83
420000	Veterans Assistance	\$ 180,000.00	\$ 34,520.34	\$ 145,479.66	19.2%	80.8%	\$ 51,780.51
420010	Vets Asst - Emergency	\$ 17,500.00	\$ 4,889.20	\$ 12,610.80	27.9%	72.1%	\$ 7,333.80
420020	Vets Asst - Shelter	\$ 102,000.00	\$ 21,401.57	\$ 80,598.43	21.0%	79.0%	\$ 32,102.36
420025	Vets Asst - Indp Living	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 1,990.26	\$ 11,709.74	14.5%	85.5%	\$ 2,985.39
420030	Vets Asst - Electric	\$ 14,200.00	\$ 874.34	\$ 13,325.66	6.2%	93.8%	\$ 1,311.51
420031	Vets Asst - Heat	\$ 9,200.00	\$ 1,408.07	\$ 7,791.93	15.3%	84.7%	\$ 2,112.11
420032	Vets Asst - Telephone	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 319.84	\$ 1,880.16	14.5%	85.5%	\$ 479.76
420033	Vets Asst - Trash	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 446.84	\$ 803.16	35.7%	64.3%	\$ 670.26
420034	Vets Asst - Water/Sewer	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 1,424.60	\$ 6,375.40	18.3%	81.7%	\$ 2,136.90
420040	Vets Asst - Gasoline	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
420041	Vets Asst - Transportation	\$ 4,200.00	\$ 890.62	\$ 3,309.38	21.2%	78.8%	\$ 1,335.93
420045	Vets Asst - Food	\$ 7,450.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 6,575.00	11.7%	88.3%	\$ 1,312.50
424800	Medical Service	\$ 700.00	\$ 640.00	\$ 60.00	91.4%	8.6%	\$ 960.00
430600	Vehicle Maint	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 3,522.74	\$ 3,977.26	47.0%	53.0%	\$ 5,284.11
432100	Software Support	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,745.00	\$ 55.00	96.9%	3.1%	\$ 2,617.50
437000	Legal Services	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 927.50	\$ 72.50	92.8%	7.3%	\$ 1,391.25
<b>Contractual</b>		<b>\$ 221,950.00</b>	<b>\$ 54,507.33</b>	<b>\$ 166,515.17</b>	<b>24.56%</b>	<b>75.02%</b>	<b>\$ 81,761.00</b>
Supplies & Equipment		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
501000	Office Supplies	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 581.89	\$ 618.11	48.5%	51.5%	\$ 872.84
501010	Promotional Items	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 1,500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
504000	Mileage	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,785.54	\$ 714.46	71.4%	28.6%	\$ 2,678.31
505000	Meeting Expense	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 4,134.88	\$ 4,365.12	48.6%	51.4%	\$ 6,202.32
511400	Office Equipment	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,416.75	\$ (716.75)	202.4%	-102.4%	\$ 2,125.13
512000	Computer Software	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
516000	Fuel, Oil, Grease	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 2,141.44	\$ 2,858.56	42.8%	57.2%	\$ 3,212.16
521000	Publications	\$ 150.00	\$ -	\$ 150.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
525100	Promotional Events	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 750.00	\$ 500.00	60%	40%	\$ 1,125.00
<b>Equipment</b>		<b>\$ 21,300.00</b>	<b>\$ 10,810.50</b>	<b>\$ 10,489.50</b>	<b>50.75%</b>	<b>49.25%</b>	<b>\$ 16,215.75</b>
Other		Budgeted	Expended	Remaining	% Exp.	% Rem.	
602000	Vehicle	\$ 0.00	\$ -	\$ 0.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
681000	Fund Bal. Enhancement	\$ 810.00	\$ -	\$ 810.00	0.0%	100.0%	\$ -
<b>Totals</b>		<b>\$ 598,909.00</b>	<b>\$ 280,948.97</b>	<b>\$ 317,032.53</b>	<b>46.91%</b>	<b>52.94%</b>	<b>\$ 421,423.46</b>